

Appl. No. 10/021,843

Amdt. Dated August 31, 2006

Reply to Office action of May 17, 2006

REMARKS**I CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 103**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 and 14-19 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S Patent No. 5,280,159 as issued to Shultz et al (Schultz) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,517,000 as issued to McAllister et al (McAllister). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claims 1, 5, and 14 have been amended to include a standard modular attachment suitable for holding a mobile computer which includes RFID circuitry that is separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment. Specifically, claim 1 includes the limitations "a standard modular attachment suitable for holding the mobile computer," "circuitry connected to said standard modular attachment and coupled to said battery for providing the RFID functionality," and "wherein said battery and said circuitry are separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment."

Claim 5 includes the limitations "a standard modular attachment suitable for holding said mobile computer," "circuitry within said standard modular attachment configured to provide the RFID functionality," and "wherein said circuitry are separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment."

Claim 14 includes the limitations "a standard modular attachment suitable for holding the mobile computer," "circuitry within said standard modular attachment and coupled to said battery for providing the RFID functionality," and "wherein said battery and said circuitry are

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separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment."

Shultz does not teach or suggest a standard modular attachment suitable for holding a mobile computer which includes RFID circuitry that is separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment. Schultz discloses a magnetic RF tag reader for reading RF tags which transmit information to the receiver when the RF tag is disposed in a low frequency magnetic field (Abstract). As shown in FIG. 1, the magnetic RF tag reader 10 includes a main body portion 11 and a handle 13. A barrel portion 16 has an opening 17 thereon for providing access to an antenna 18 disposed within the barrel 16. Another antenna is disposed within the housing portion 11 and is essentially an electro-magnet wherein the coils of the antenna, when energized, will cause a magnetic field to energize any passive transponder such as passive transponder 20 shown in FIG. 9. (column 2, line 60 through column 3, line 6) A laser emitting light source 22 is attached to the barrel 16 for emitting a light concentric with the cylindrical longitudinal access of the sight housing 22 (column 3, lines 7 through 9). As illustrated in FIG. 10, the magnetic RF tag reader 10 is tethered to a hand-held computer terminal 30 by tether 24. The hand-held terminal 30 has a keyboard 31, a display screen 32, and a transceiver for receiving or sending radio frequency signals through the antenna 33. Schultz thus discloses a transceiver located within the hand-held terminal, or mobile computer, as opposed to being located within the magnetic RF tag reader 10. Additionally, Schultz makes no mention of any device suitable for holding a mobile computer, let alone such a device having RFID circuitry therein. Specifically, Schultz does not teach or suggest a standard modular attachment suitable for holding a mobile computer which

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includes RFID circuitry that is separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment.

McAllister does not teach or suggest a standard modular attachment suitable for holding a mobile computer which includes RFID circuitry that is separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment. McAllister teaches a data reading system that includes a dual ended cable for connecting an electronic article surveillance (EAS) antenna located on a data reader with a separate RFID device (Abstract). As shown in Figure 6, a hand held data reader 520 has an optical collector 525, a photosensitive detector 527, and an internal bar code processor 528 located within a housing 529 with a window 521 (column 7, lines 17-20). The hand held data reader 520 also includes an EAS antenna 522 that is printed on a circuit board 523 and located behind the window 521. A single antenna may include a transmitter and a receiver (column 1, lines 62-64). The EAS antenna 522 is connected to an impedance matching network 514. The impedance matching network 514 is attached to a coaxial cable 512, which is connected to a RFID reader 530. The RFID reader 530 is attached to a host computer 540. (column 7, lines 21-29) Additionally, McAllister makes no mention of any device suitable for holding a mobile computer, let alone such a device having RFID circuitry therein. Specifically, McAllister does not teach or suggest a standard modular attachment suitable for holding a mobile computer which includes RFID circuitry that is separate from the mobile computer when the mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment.

As a result, Schultz and McAllister, either individually or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest a standard modular attachment suitable for holding a mobile computer which includes RFID circuitry that is separate from the mobile computer when the

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mobile computer is not being held by the standard modular attachment. Therefore, claims 1, 5, and 14 are patentable over Schultz in view of McAllister because claims 1, 5 and 14 include limitations that are not disclosed, taught, or suggested in Schultz and McAllister, whether or not Schultz and McAllister are read alone or in combination.

Claims 2 - 4, 6 - 9, and 15 - 19 are dependent on either claim 1, claim 5, or claim 14 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 5, and 14 stated above. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-9 and 14-19 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultz in view of McAllister.

II. EXAMINER INTERVIEW

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during a telephone interview held on August 29, 2006, and August 30, 2006. During the telephone interview, proposed amendments were discussed with the Examiner. An agreement was reached with the Examiner that the claims of the present application, as amended herein, overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections presented in the Office Action mailed May 17, 2006. However, the Examiner indicated that an additional search would have to be performed before any of the claims could be considered to be allowable.

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III. CONCLUSION

In view of Applicant's amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Examiner's rejections under 35 USC § 103(a), have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application, as amended, is now in condition for allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorneys at (480) 385-5060.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

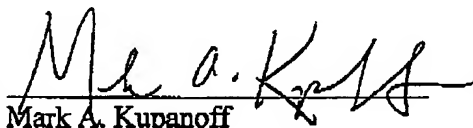
Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated:

8/31/06

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